

Division BX9568
Section P8A2
1873-82

THIRD ANNUAL MEETING.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Synod of the Potomac

OF THE

✓
REFORMED CHURCH

IN THE

UNITED STATES,

Synod of the Potomac

CONVENED IN CONVENTION,

WINCHESTER, VA., OCTOBER, 1875.

PHILADELPHIA :

REFORMED CHURCH PUBLICATION BOARD, No. 907 ARCH STREET.

1875.

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Third Annual Meeting.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

Of the Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States, at its Annual Sessions, convened in Convention in the City of Winchester, Va., in the month of October, in the year of our Lord, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy-Five. The Sessions commenced on the evening of the Twentieth, and continued until the afternoon of the Twenty fifth day of the month, inclusive.

ARTICLE I.

OPENING OF SYNOD.

THE Synod met in Convention on Wednesday evening, Oct. 20th, A. D., 1875, at 7½ o'clock, in Centenary Reformed Church of the City of Winchester, Frederick county, Virginia, pursuant to appointment of last Annual Meeting, and was opened with the usual religious services. The President, Rev. S. N. Callender, D.D., preached the opening sermon from John xx. 22 : "*And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost ;*" and 1 Cor. iv. 1 : "*Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and Stewards of the mysteries of God.*"

ARTICLE II.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

I. FROM THE CLASSIS OF MARYLAND.

Ministers.—Joseph W. Santee, D.D., Edmund R. Eschbach, William Goodrich, Simon S. Miller, J. Spangler Kieffer, Abner R. Kremer, William C. Cremer, Daniel Gans, D.D., Mortimer L. Shuford, Orange E. Lake, Joel T. Rossiter, Nehemiah H. Skyles, J. Mortimer Souder, and George L. Staley, D D.

Elders.—Henry Reynolds, Louis Markell, Joseph Seibert, George J. Fouke, William A. Hull, Edward D. Zimmerman, Jacob H. Bowlers, Goldsboro S. Griffith, James E. Dodrer, and Ezra Williard.

II. FROM THE CLASSIS OF MERCERSBURG.

Ministers.—William M. Deatrick, Adam C. Whitmer, Peter S. Davis, D.D., John A. Peters, William C. Schaeffer, Henry F. Seiple, Samuel R. Bridenbaugh, David N. Dittmar, David M. Whitmore, El-nathan E. Higbee, D.D., John H. Sykes, Ambrose C. Geary, Milton H. Sangree, Stephen K. Kremer, Albert G. Dole, Harrison H. W. Hibshman, Solomon B. Schafer, Ellis N. Kremer, Prof. Jacob B. Kerschner, Jacob Hassler, and the licentiate John C. Bowman.

Elders.—David Diehl, George B. Smith, John D. Eckhard, John Bowman, Adam B. Wingerd, Jacob F. Hoover, John P. Reed, David Dunn, Alvy B. Bowen, and Isaac M. Neff.

III. FROM THE CLASSIS OF VIRGINIA.

Ministers.—H. St. John Rinker, Samuel N. Callender, D.D., Charles G. Fisher, and Henry Tallhelm.

Elders.—Moses Fry, William W. Wenner, Joseph Snapp, William A. Cushwa, George W. Lantz, Peter J. Roller, John H. Bauserman, Stephen Stacey, and William J. S. Hensell.

IV. FROM THE CLASSIS OF ZION.

Ministers.—William K. Zieber, D.D., William R. H. Deatrick, Jacob D. Zehring, Reinhart R. Smith, Owen L. Ashenfelter, Aaron Spangler, Francis S. Lindaman, Israel S. Weisz, Reuben Rauhauser, William F. Colliflower, and Jacob O. Miller, D.D.

Elders.—George Myers, William H. Bange, Samuel P. Young, Henry M. Cocklin, Henry S. Hershey, Jeremiah G. Hildebrand, Elias Heilman, George L. Ickes, Francis M. McKeehan, Michael B. Emig, David Wolf, Israel Laucks, and Samuel Shumaker.

V. FROM THE CLASSIS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

* * * * *

VI. FROM THE CLASSIS OF SAN FRANCISCO.

* * * * *

NOTE.—A number of members appeared upon the floor of Synod after the first session, and hence their names do not occur in the order in which they would, had they been present at the opening session. A number of members also obtained leave of absence from day to day. In one instance—from Virginia Clasiss—the name of an Elder *secundus* appears in the foregoing list of members together with his *primarius*.

ADVISORY MEMBERS.

From the Synod of the United States.—Revs. S. R. Fisher, D.D., and F. K. Levan.

From the Classis of Zion.—Elder Henry Wirt.

From the Classis of Virginia.—Elder Richard L. Gray.

MINISTERS OF OTHER CHURCHES.

The presence of the following ministers was announced at intervals during the sessions of Synod :

Revs. A. M. Courtney, of the Methodist Episcopal Church ; S. Billings, of the Presbyterian Church ; D. M. Gilbert, of the Lutheran Church ; E. J. Willis and E. Lewis, of the Baptist Church ; and B. Arbogast, of the Methodist Episcopal Church South.

ARTICLE III.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Rev. P. S. Davis was chosen *President*.

Rev. W. M. Deatrick is *Stated Clerk*.

Rev. J. W. Santee was re-elected *Corresponding Secretary*.

Elder Louis Markell was re-elected *Treasurer*.

ARTICLE IV.

RULES OF ORDER.

The reading of the Rules of Order was dispensed with for the present sessions of Synod.

The Synod defined the bar of the house, as required by the Rules of Order.

The following hours were fixed upon for opening and closing the present sessions of Synod :

The Morning Sessions, to open at 9 and close at 12 o'clock.

The Afternoon Sessions, to open at 2½ and close at 5 o'clock.

ARTICLE V.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

The following Standing Committees were appointed by the President:

Religious Services.—Revs. C. G. Fisher, H. St. J. Linker, W. Goodrich, and Elders J. Snapp, and D. Diehl.

Minutes of Synod.—Revs. W. M. Deatruck, N. H. Skyles, A. G. Dole, and Elders J. Bowman, and W. W. Wenner.

Minutes of General Synod.—Revs. O. L. Ashenfelter, I. S. Weisz, J. D. Zehring, and Elders J. H. Bauserman, and E. D. Zimmerman.

Overtures.—Revs E. R. Eschbach, W. K. Zieber, H. Tallhelm, and Elders G. J. Fouke, and W. H. Bange.

Minutes of Classes.—Revs. W. F. Colliflower, W. R. H. Deatruck, M. H. Sangree, and Elders H. Reynolds, and W. A. Cushwa.

Examination, Licensure, and Ordination.—Revs. D. Gans, W. K. Zieber, A. C. Whitmer, and Elders H. M. Cocklin, and G. W. Lantz.

State of Religion and Statistical Reports.—Revs. J. T. Rossiter, W. C. Cremer, J. A. Peters, and Elders J. P. Reed, and F. M. McKeehan.

Missions.—Revs. S. S. Miller, M. L. Shuford, J. M. Souder, and Elders P. S. Roller, and J. Seibert.

Finance.—Revs. J. S. Kieffer, O. E. Lake, H. H. W. Hibshman, and Elders W. A. Hull, and G. S. Griffith.

Nominations.—Revs. E. E. Higbee, S. N. Callender, W. Goodrich, and Elders A. B. Winger, and L. Markell.

ARTICLE VI.

COMMUNICATIONS.

1. The Minutes of the Classes of Mercersburg, Maryland, Zion, Virginia, and North Carolina were received, and referred to the Committee on Minutes of Classes, except the Reports on the State of Religion and Statistical Reports, which were referred to the Committee on those subjects.

2. The Annual Report of the Treasurer was read, and then referred to the Committee on Finance.

3. The Reports of the President, the General Superintendent, and the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Home Missions of the three District Synods of the United States, the Potomac, and Pittsburgh were received, severally read, and then referred to the Committee on Missions.

4. Eleven other communications were received, and referred to the Committee on Overtures.

ARTICLE VII.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

The Synod, during its present sessions, observed the following Religious Services :

1. All the sessions were opened and closed with suitable religious services.

2. The Committee on Religious Services submitted their report, which was received and adopted as follows :

The Committee on Religious Services beg leave to report the following appointments for religious services :

SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE SYNOD.

Thursday evening.—Sermon by Rev. J. S. Kieffer.

Friday evening.—Synodical Sunday-school Board's services ; conducted by Elder G. S. Griffith, member of the Sunday-school Board.

Saturday afternoon.—Services preparatory to the Holy Communion at 2½ o'clock. Sermon by Rev. J. H. Sykes.

Sunday morning.—Celebration of the Lord's Supper ; sermon by Rev. J. W. Santee.

Sunday afternoon.—Sunday-school services : addresses by Revs. W. R. H. Deatrieh, J. O. Miller, and Elder F. M. McKeehan.

Sunday evening.—Sermon by Rev. E. E. Higbee, President of Mercersburg College.

Monday evening.—Missionary Meeting : services conducted by Rev. J. O. Miller, President of the Tri-Synodic Board of Home Missions.

All these services, except the preparatory services, were held in the Market Street Methodist Episcopal Church, the largest church edifice of the place, which had been kindly offered by the Pastor, the Rev. A. M. Courtney and his membership, for the use of Synod. The Reformed Church being smaller, the sessions of Synod and the preparatory services were held in it.

SERVICES IN OTHER CHURCHES OF WINCHESTER.

Kent Street Presbyterian Church.—*Sunday morning*. Sermon by Rev. E. N. Kremer.

Loudon Street Presbyterian Church.—*Sunday morning*. Sermon by Rev. O. L. Ashenfelter.

Methodist Episcopal Church, South.—*Sunday morning*. Sermon by Rev. W. C. Cremer. *Sunday evening*. Sermon by Rev. J. Hassler.

Lutheran Church.—*Sunday morning*. Sermon by Rev. J. T. Rossiter.

Baptist Church.—*Sunday morning.* Sermon by Rev. I. S. Weisz.
Protestant Episcopal Church.—*Sunday morning.* Sermon by Rev.
 P. S. Davis. *Sunday evening.* Sermon by Rev. E. R. Eschbach.

COLORED CHURCHES.

Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Sunday morning.* Sermon by Rev.
 W. F. Colliflower. *Sunday evening.* Sermon by Rev. H. H. W.
 Hibshman.

Freewill Baptist Church.—Sermon by Rev. F. S. Lindaman. *Sun-*
day evening. Sermon by Rev. H. Tallhelm.

Respectfully submitted.

C. G. FISHER, *Chairman.*

The religious services, as appointed by the committee, were severally
 observed.

ARTICLE VIII.

MINUTES OF SYNOD AND GENERAL SYNOD.

The reading of the Minutes of the last annual meeting and of the
 General Synod of Fort Wayne was dispensed with, and the printed
 Minutes of last annual meeting were referred to the Committee on
 Minutes of Synod, to report the items of unfinished business claiming
 the attention of this meeting; and those of the General Synod were
 referred to the Committee on Minutes of General Synod.

The Committees submitted the following reports, which were re-
 ceived and disposed of item by item.

I. MINUTES OF THE SYNOD OF THE POTOMAC.

The Committee, to whom was referred the Minutes of the Synod
 of last year for examination, would report the following items of un-
 finished business, as claiming the attention of this Synod, viz.:

Item 1, page 13. A resolution directing the North Carolina, Vir-
 ginia, and Maryland Classes to open an additional column in their
 Statistical tables for the number of students preparing for the Holy
 Ministry, as requested by the General Synod of Cincinnati.

Item 2, page 23. Recommendations to the several Classes of this
 Synod in regard to missionary festivals, missionary services and col-
 lections in our Sunday-schools, and the acceptance of the apportion-
 ment of \$3,300 upon this Synod, as indicated by the Board of Home
 Missions.

Item 3, page 30. Assessments upon the several Classes for the Contingent Fund of Synod.

Item 4, page 30. The continuance of the Committee of Conference, with instructions, of which Rev. D. Y. Heisler is chairman, to adjust certain matters in reference to Beneficiary Education, etc., between this Synod and the Synod of the United States.

Item 5, page 31. The Stated Clerk is instructed to notify the Classes of Mercersburg and North Carolina of the refusal of the Synod of the United States to exonerate them from any portion of their assessments for Contingent Fund, as made by said Synod in 1872.

Item 6, page 31. The Treasurer is instructed to pay \$232.00 to the Treasurer of the Board of Church Extension, being the amount assessed upon this Synod to liquidate the debt resting upon said Board.

Item 7, page 33. Rev. F. A. Rupley gives notice of *Complaint* to the General Synod in the Rice Appeal Case, and Revs. S. N. Callender and J. S. Kieffer were appointed to defend the Synod before the General Synod of Fort Wayne, held last May.

Item 8, page 34. Rev. F. A. Rupley gives notice of *Complaint*, in the Birely Complaint Case, from the decision of Synod to the General Synod, and the same Committee, as in the Rice Appeal Case, is appointed to defend the action of Synod before the General Synod of Fort Wayne.

Item 9, page 35. The subject of the preparation of a system of Lessons for Sabbath-schools is committed into the hands of the Sunday-School Board.

Item 10, page 36. The Committee on Synodical Boundaries, of which Rev. J. A. Peters is Chairman, is continued with instructions.

Item 11, page 36. The Committee of Conference on union with the Reformed Church in America, of which Rev. J. O. Miller is Chairman, is continued.

Item 12, page 36. The Committee appointed to aid in drafting a new Constitution, of which Rev. E. E. Higbee is Chairman, is continued.

Item 13, page 36. The Classes are directed to see that the Charters of congregations harmonize with the Constitution of the Reformed Church in the United States.

Item 14, page 36. The attention of the several Classes is called anew to the importance of having full and complete statistical reports, etc.

Item 15, page 37. The German Maryland Classis is dismissed for the purpose of forming, with other German Classes, a German Synod in the eastern portion of the Church.

Item 16, page 39. The Stated Clerk is instructed to have twelve hundred and fifty copies of the Minutes of the last Synod published, and distributed among those entitled to receive them.

Item 17, page 42. The Society for the Relief of Ministers and

Widows of Ministers of the Reformed Church in the United States, is anew commended to the confidence and support of our churches, etc.

Item 18, page 46. Synod adopts the Selection of Hymns, and recommends its introduction and use in our congregations, as far as possible and expedient, and also appoints Rev. Dr. Higbee, Lewis H. Steiner, M. D., and Rev. Prof. J. B. Kerschuer as a committee, who, in conjunction with a similar committee from the Synod of the United States, shall have power to prepare and publish an edition of the Collection of Hymns with music: and furthermore, Synod expresses a willingness to bear a certain proportion of the expenses incurred in doing so.

Respectfully submitted.

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Chairman.*

The duty in item 1, having been attended to, the item was adopted. For the action of Synod on item 2, see Article X., Minutes of Classes; on items 3, 4, 5 and 6, see Article XV., Finance; on items 7 and 8, see Article XVII., Complaints; on item 9, see Article XVIII., Sunday-schools; on items 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15, see Article XIX., Church Government; on item 16, see Article XX., Publication; on items 17 and 18, see Article XXI., Miscellaneous.

II. MINUTES OF THE GENERAL SYNOD OF FORT WAYNE.

To the Potomac Synod.

Your Committee on the Minutes of the General Synod reports as follows:

Item 1, page 44. A resolution referring the subject of Home Missions to the District Synods' Boards.

Item 2, page 47. A resolution referring the Sunday-school interest to the District Synods.

Item 3, page 53. A recommendation to the District Synods concerning delegates' expenses to the Synods of the Church.

Item 4, page 66. An assessment of \$166.00 upon the Synod of the Potomac for Contingent Fund.

Item 5, page 73. The General Synod will hold its next meeting in the First Reformed Church of Lancaster, Pa., commencing on Wednesday Evening, May 15th, A. D., 1878, at 8 o'clock.

Respectfully submitted.

O. L. ASHENFELTER, *Chairman.*

Items 1, 2 and 5, were simply adopted; for the action of Synod on item 3, see Article XIX., Church Government; and on item 4, see Article XV., Finance.

ARTICLE IX.

OVERTURES.

The Committee on Overtures submitted their report, which was received and disposed of item by item, and is as follows, viz :

The Committee on Overtures beg leave to report as follows :

1. A request from the German Maryland Classis, asking to be released from the payment of \$12.00 assessed upon said Classis for Contingent Fund of Synod.

2. A letter from Rev. J. H. Krueger of San Francisco, Cal., requesting to be excused from attendance upon the present sessions of this Synod.

3. A letter from Rev. T. L. Poulson of Baltimore, Md., asking to be excused from attendance upon the present sessions of Synod.

4. Report of the Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church in the United States.

5. Report from the Board of the Orphans' Home at Womelsdorf, Pa.

6. A complete form on which to report the statistics of the Classes, transmitted by the Stated Clerk of the General Synod to the Stated Clerk of this Synod.

7. Report from the Secretary of the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa.

8. Transcript of certain action taken by the Board of Publication of the Reformed Church in the United States, at its regular meeting, held on the 13th of October, 1875, accompanied with a brief statement of the financial condition of the Board.

9. A letter from Rev. F. Fox of Napa City, Cal., requesting to be excused for his non-attendance upon the present sessions of this body, and appealing for prompt missionary support.

10. A request in behalf of the Friends of the Sabbath in Philadelphia, Pa., asking this Synod to pass some resolutions against the opening of the Centennial grounds on the Sabbath, during the coming national Celebration.

11. A letter from Rev. J. Muellhaupt of Stockton, Cal., in which he asks to be excused for his non-attendance upon the present sessions of Synod.

12. A communication from the President of the Tri-Synodic Board of Home Missions.

13. Reports of the Superintendent and Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Home Missions.

Respectfully submitted.

E. R. ESCHBACH, *Chairman.*

For the action of Synod on item 1, see Article XV., Finance; on items 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11, see Article XXI., Miscellaneous; and on items 12 and 13, see Article XIV., Missions.

ARTICLE X.

MINUTES OF CLASSES.

The Committee on Minutes of Classes submitted their report, which was received, disposed of item by item, and is as follows :

The Committee on Minutes of Classes respectfully submit the following report, viz :

I. IRREGULARITIES.

1. The President of the Virginia Classis submitted to date the circulars addressed to its members in the call of two special meetings.

2. The same Classis neglected to record the names of the officers in the organization at its last annual meeting.

3. The San Francisco Classis failed to furnish the Synod with a copy of its Proceedings.

II. REQUESTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

The Maryland Classis adopted the following resolution in regard to the present form of the *Reformed Church Messenger*, etc., viz.:

Resolved, That while this Classis hopes that the present form of the Messenger may not be permanent, we acquiesce in its present necessity: but that we respectfully ask the Synod of the Potomac to take such measures, in respect to securing a combination of regular contributors to the *Messenger*, as may give a higher character to its contents.

III. APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS.

None.

IV. SUBJECTS REFERRED TO CLASSES.

1. The Zion's, Maryland, Mercersburg, and Virginia Classes took favorable action upon the subjects of Missions, Beneficiary Education, Change of Charters, Statistical Reports, Widows' Fund Society, and the circulation of the periodicals of the Church.

2. The North Carolina Classis passed over the subjects of Change of Charters, and Widows' Fund Society, "as needing no action."

V. LICENSED, ORDAINED, RECEIVED AND DISMISSED.

1. Zion's Classis received the Licentiate James I. Good from the Lebanon Classis, and ordained him; ordained the licentiate William H. Herbert; licensed George C. Hall; received the Rev. Wm. F. Colliflower from the Maryland Classis; dismissed the Rev. Frederick Fox, Rev. J. Muellhaupt, and Rev. Julius H. Krueger to the Classis of San Francisco; the Rev. Aaron H. Leiss to the Lebanon Classis; the Rev. James Crawford to the West Susquehanna Classis; and the Rev. Henry Wissler to the Maryland Classis.

2. Maryland Classis received the Rev. David W. Kelley from the East Susquehanna Classis; the Rev. Joel T. Rossiter from the Virginia Classis; the Rev. Nehemiah H. Skyles from the Mercersburg Classis; the Rev. Henry Wissler from the Zion's Classis; dismissed the Rev. Herman Bielfeld and St. John's Church of Frederick City, Md., and Rev. M. Treiber and the First Reformed Church of Washington City, D. C., to the German Maryland Classis; the Rev. Wm. F. Colliflower to the Zion's Classis; and erased the name of Julius G. Erhard.

3. Mercersburg Classis received the licentiate Henry F. Seiple from the Philadelphia Classis, and ordained him; licensed and ordained David M. Whitmore, David N. Dittmar, and Samuel R. Bridenbaugh; licensed John C. Bowman; and dismissed the Rev. N. H. Skyles to the Maryland Classis.

4. Virginia Classis ordained the licentiate A. J. Bowers; and dismissed the Rev. Joel T. Rossiter to the Maryland Classis.

VI. PLACE AND TIME OF THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE CLASSES.

1. Zion's Classis will meet in the Reformed Church of Carlisle, Cumberland County, Pa., on the third Friday in May, the 19th, 1876, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. M. Kieffer, D. D., *President*, and Rev. W. R. H. Deatrich, *Stated Clerk*.

2. Maryland Classis will meet in St. Paul's Reformed Church of Westminster, Carroll County, Md., on Thursday before Ascension Day, May 18th, 1876, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. Abner R. Kremer, *President*, and Rev. Simon S. Miller, *Stated Clerk*.

3. Mercersburg Classis will meet in the Reformed Church of Greencastle, Franklin County, Pa., on Wednesday evening, May 17th, 1876, at 7½ o'clock. Rev. A. C. Whitmer, *President*, and Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, *Stated Clerk*.

4. Virginia Classis will meet in Grace Reformed Church of Shenandoah County, Va., on Thursday, before the third Sunday in May, 1876, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. G. H. Martin, *President*, and Rev. Henry St. John Rinker, *Stated Clerk*.

5. North Carolina Classis will meet in the Brick Church, in the Guilford Charge, on Thursday before the fourth Lord's Day in May, 1876, at 10 o'clock, A. M. Rev. J. Ingold, *President*, and Rev. G. W. Welker, D. D., *Stated Clerk*.

6. San Francisco Classis will meet in * * *

Respectfully submitted.

WM. F. COLLIFLOWER, *Chairman*.

The items were severally adopted, and the Report was then adopted as a whole.

ARTICLE XI.

EXAMINATION, LICENSURE, AND ORDINATION.

The Committee on Examination, Licensure and Ordination made the following report, which was received and adopted, viz. :

Your Committee on Examination, Licensure and Ordination beg leave to report, that no applications having been made, the Committee have had nothing to do.

Respectfully submitted.

D. GANS, *Chairman*.

ARTICLE XII.

STATE OF RELIGION AND STATISTICAL REPORTS.

The Committee on the State of Religion and Statistical Reports submitted their report, which was received and adopted, and is as follows, viz. :

Reverend Fathers and Brethren of the Synod of the Potomac :—Your Committee on the State of Religion respectfully submit the following as their report :

In presenting this the third Annual Report, we are moved by the spirit and tenor of the Classical Reports placed in our hands, to render devout thanksgiving and praise unto Him the once crucified, but now exalted Saviour, who yet liveth and reigneth in His body, the Church, with the Father, who has delivered us from the power of darkness and translated us into the kingdom of His dear Son ; and unto the Holy Ghost, the Enlightener and Comforter, who in the Church abides with us forever, and carries on the work of our Redemption—the glorious Trinity—for the temporal and spiritual mercies and blessings vouchsafed unto us as a Synod during the past year. As we stand to-day on this eminence, the close of another year of grace, and look back over the incessant and weary toils, we are made to rejoice together that our labor has not been in vain in the Lord. The fruitage of the year's work, so rich and full, which the reports note, demands an everlasting song of praise. And it is but meet, right, and our fitting duty, that we should in this public way, give expression of our heartfelt gratitude unto the Great Head of the Church for the signal manner in which He has crowned the humble labors of His servants.

The pleasant intelligence comes to us that under the blessing of God, the ministry generally have been enabled to scatter the seeds of divine truth, to administer the Holy Sacraments—to nurture the baptized youth in the Sunday-school and in the Catechetical class—to visit the sick and afflicted, and to offer a proclamation of pardon to

all who have been rebellious and wicked, in the words of the Saviour, "Whosoever will, let him come." And the blessed results of this faithful service in the Lord's vineyard have been a steady increase of attendance upon the preaching of the word, in the number of Baptisms, Confirmations, and Communicants, and also in an increase of the spirit of benevolence in the cause of missions—in cheering the hearts of fatherless children—in supporting our institutions of learning—in the organization of new charges, and in the erection of new and churchly edifices, which symbolize that "beauty of holiness," in which Christians are exhorted to worship the Lord. These evidences of outward growth, with many others of a similar character, are to the minds of your Committee, testimonials of corresponding progress in the powers of the inner life. And these indications of real church prosperity, are not marvelous when we keep in mind that Christianity is the highest order of life, and that the Holy Ghost has but used His own ordained means to quicken and confirm the faith of the Son of God in the hearts of the people, and not some spasmodic effort on the part of the ministry, nor temporary excitement of religious sentiment, whose cessation is sure to be followed by a state of coldness and inactivity.

But while in these particulars we have pleasing and encouraging evidences of the presence and power of the Spirit in the Church, it cannot be concealed that there are many things which call for humiliation on our part, that God may not enter into judgment with us. The spirit and practice of benevolence though increased, notwithstanding the financial pressure over the whole country, are not what they should be to meet the pressing demands made upon us from different quarters. Our missionaries are crying for money wherewith to buy bread for their families. Contributions for the support of beneficiary education are inadequate to enable the young men we have under our fostering care, to continue their studies uninterruptedly, and pastoral charges are vacant in many instances from want of sufficient pastoral support. These, together with a *lack* in some instances of that spirit which will be neither ashamed nor afraid, to speak, and act and *live* for the Church of our Fathers, constitute some of our weaknesses and shortcomings, and call for renewed activity, and entire personal consecration, on the altar of the gospel, in soul and body, property and life, to our blessed Master's service.

The Church Year, with its Advent and Epiphanies, its Lenten solemnity, reaching its acme, in Good Friday, its Resurrection and mysterious appearances beyond the tomb, its Ascension and outpouring of the Holy Ghost, connected with the founding of the Church, and its development in the graces of the Spirit, the practical experiences and the great duties of the Christian reaching on through the Trinity season, until with grateful hearts Advent is again hailed, has been generally followed, and the different fasts and festivals duly observed.

The Sunday-school cause has received during the past year, a larger share of attention, than in any previous year, perhaps, of our Church history. Catechetical instruction is becoming more and more introduced into the schools of the Church; and more earnest efforts are being made, to make the whole teaching for young and old revolve round the distinctive confessional basis of our good old symbol, the Heidelberg Catechism. The Lesson Papers prepared by our Board of Publication on the Church Year, have been pretty generally adopted, and as a result are bringing about a *uniformity* of instruction for the children and youth throughout the domain of our Synod, a firmer education of our children in the system of the Church Year, and an increased interest in the Church festivals. This increased interest for the provision of the *lambs* of the flock, members of God's holy family, through the sacrament of Baptism marks a clearer apprehension of the true relation, nature and design of the Sunday-school.

Our brethren in North Carolina and California, and the latter in different communications, send us greetings, and express their regret, that circumstances, distance and want of pecuniary means, not inclination, prevent them from assembling with us in this third annual session. We as a Synod should in a special manner extend our cordial sympathy to our brethren on the Pacific coast and offer our prayers for their welfare, and assure them, that though absent, they shall not be forgotten, by tangible proofs of our sympathy and love.

In conclusion it is encouraging to note that whilst a large number of standard-bearers have been added to our ranks in the Church militant during the past year, but *one*, Rev. Father Bossler, has been taken hence to the Church triumphant in the world beyond the grave. He rests from his labors, but his works, the blessed influence of his ministry here, like the circling waves which eddy around the stone dropped in mid ocean, will continue to widen and expand until it dies away on the shores of eternity. Death to him was only birth, to a higher and more glorious destiny. "Write, blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth; yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors, and their works do follow them."

And now, unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly, above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, be glory in the Church by Christ Jesus, throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

Respectfully submitted.

J. T. ROSSITER.

(For Statistical Tables see Appendix.)

ARTICLE XIII.

EDUCATION.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

The Board of Education made its annual report, which was received and adopted, and is as follows :

To the Synod of the Potomac :—

The Board of Education met in Hanover, Pa., on the 26th of October, 1874, and organized by the re-election of the officers of the previous year, viz. : Rev. P. S. Davis, President ; Rev. I. G. Brown, Secretary, and Elder David C. Hammond, Treasurer.

During the past year the Board has had under its care the following beneficiary students, to whom appropriations have been made.

Mercersburg Classis, John C. Bowman, David N. Dittmar, David M. Whitmore, William I. Stewart, Anderson J. Whitmore, Henry S. Garner, Isaac N. Peightel, Samuel C. Long, Samuel H. Eisenberg, Albert A. Black, Daniel H. Leader and George B. Resser.

Zion's Classis, George C. Hall, George P. Hartzel, H. G. Comfort and Conrad H. Nagle.

Maryland Classis, Marion L. Firor and Lewis Zineckham.

Virginia Classis, George A. Whitmore and Samuel L. Whitmore.

Of these John C. Bowman, David N. Dittmar, together with Samuel R. Bridenbaugh who had completed their Theological course at Lancaster, Pa., and David M. Whitmore, who had taken the Post Graduate course at Mercersburg College, were licensed to preach the Gospel by the Mercersburg Classis. Messrs. Bridenbaugh, Whitmore, and Dittmar were also ordained to the Gospel Ministry by the same Classis, and are now settled in pastoral charges.

Zion's Classis licensed one of its beneficiary students, George C. Hall, and erased the name of Conrad H. Nagle from its list of beneficiary students.

The amounts paid for Beneficiary Education are as follows, viz. :

Mercersburg Classis,	\$1,324 30
Zion's Classis,	497 55
Virginia Classis,	276 83
Maryland Classis,	94 24
	<hr/>
Making,	\$2,192 92

Besides those already mentioned as receiving beneficiary assistance, the following students have been pursuing their studies under the care of the various Classes composing the Synod: George M. Zacharias, at Lancaster, Pa., deriving the benefit of the Smaltz Fund. At

Mercersburg, George F. Mull, Isaac M. Motter, Bart. R. Carnahan, John M. Schick, W. Wilberforce Deatrick, and John North.

Very little money passes through the hands of the Treasurer of the Board. It is generally paid to the Treasurers of the Classes, and by them directly to the beneficiary students.

The Bonds required from the beneficiary students are also usually given to the various Classes.

It will be necessary, during this meeting, to elect seven persons to constitute your Board of Education, and it is recommended that they be continued in office three years.

Your Board in obedience to the instructions of Synod, attended the examinations of the students pursuing the Post-Graduate course of Mercersburg College, and are happy to say that they proved very satisfactory.

In conclusion, your Board feels justified in calling for increased and prompt contributions for Beneficiary Education. The want of the Church, just now, is earnest, well-educated men. Truly the harvest is plenteous, but the laborers are few.

Respectfully submitted.

P. S. DAVIS, *President of Board.*

On the last day of the sessions an election was held, agreeably to the foregoing recommendation, for seven members of the Board of Education, to serve for three years, which resulted in the choice of Revs. P. S. Davis, W. M. Deatrick, J. S. Kieffer, S. N. Callender, J. W. Santee, J. A. Peters, and Elder Jacob Heyser.

The new Board of Education immediately organized by electing the following officers :

Rev. P. S. Davis, of Chambersburg, Pa., *President.*

“ J. W. Santee, of Cavetown, Md., *Secretary.*

“ W. M. Deatrick, of Mercersburg, Pa., *Treasurer.*

ARTICLE XIV.

MISSIONS.

The Tri-Synodic Board of Home Missions submitted their Annual Report to Synod, together with the Reports of the Superintendent of Missions and the Treasurer of said Board, which were severally read, and then referred to the Committee on Missions. These reports are as follows, viz. :

I. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MISSIONS.

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac.

FATHERS AND BRETHREN:—The Board of Home Missions, constituted of the three English Synods in the East, would respectfully call the attention of your Reverend Body to the pressing wants of your Board in carrying on its work. At the close of this year it was found, that we are indebted to our missionaries up to that date, October 1st, for one-half year's salary—about six thousand dollars. And that during the coming year we shall need nine thousand dollars additional to meet the wants of the Board.

During the past year the Board has reduced its expenses as much as possible,—at least three thousand dollars.

Heretofore your Board has borrowed money at different times to meet the pressing wants of its missionaries. But we find this not good policy, and hence have concluded henceforward to borrow no more money, but ask the Church to do its duty.

We now ask your earnest consideration of this general subject of missions, and pray that you will come to our aid, and provide for the pressing wants of our missionaries, who are crying for bread.

Respectfully submitted.

J. O. MILLER, *President of Board.*

II. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF HOME MISSIONS.

To the Synod of the Reformed Church in the U. S., the Synod of the Potomac, and the Synod of Pittsburgh.

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN:—The following missions have been under the care of your Board of Home Missions during the Synodical year just closed:

1. SYNOD OF THE UNITED STATES.

Catasauqua, Pa.—Rev. A. B. Koplin, pastor. Has a very valuable property, and is making progress both internally and externally. Its debt, however, weighs upon it. Unless East Penna. Classis can either largely relieve this or strengthen the charge by the addition of a good congregation, the present appropriation of the Board will have to be reduced at a very slow rate. Prospects otherwise good, and the pastor's labors successful. Appropriation \$700; till January 1st. Undetermined beyond that time. German and English.

Reading, Pa.—Christ Church. Served by Rev. J. Fuendeling for ten months of the year. Since then by Rev. R. Kunz. For several months during the summer the affairs of this congregation were unsettled; in good condition now. By having the parochial school cease, and a small family on the part of the new pastor, we have been enabled to reduce the appropriation from \$700 to \$350, for the year. Prospects promising. German.

St. John's. Became vacant last March. Supplied during the summer. October first Rev. J. W. Steinmetz takes charge. App. for the first year \$400. Expected to be, shortly, self supporting. German and English.

Philadelphia, Pa.—St. Stephen's, Rev. A. Romich, pastor. An old mission. About maintains its own from year to year. The dear brother who serves it as pastor has of late been much afflicted, having been laid low with fever himself, and having buried a child. App., old, \$225; new, \$200. This latter for six months.

St. John's, Rev. J. G. Noss, pastor. Growing. Our only English congregation in West Philadelphia with a population of 70,000. Good property, small debt. App. \$400. Continued.

*Wyoming, Del.—*Supplied part of the year. Since August under the pastoral care of Rev. W. F. Liehliter. This mission is central for our future efforts to build up the Reformed Church in the State of Delaware, whither many of our people are moving. A very substantial beginning has here been made. App., \$300. English.

Harrisburg, Pa.—Second Church, Rev. G. W. Snyder, pastor. This mission has gone forward without very material change. It has lost some good members by removal, owing to hard times, and it has gained others by its inner activity and growth. It has built an addition to its Church for Sunday-school purposes, and has a flourishing school. App., \$300, continued. English.

Zwingli, Rev. M. Noll, pastor. Maintains its own, and would grow in better times. Its inner condition seems to be gaining in permanent character. App. \$300, old; new, \$225. German.

*Columbia, Pa.—*Rev. C. Clever, pastor. Prosperous. App., old, \$200; new, \$150. English.

Hazleton, Pa.—Emanuel's. Rev. I. E. Graeff, pastor. Part of the year vacant. Latterly served by Rev. I. E. Graeff as pastor. Has been changed from German to German and English, as our First Church in the town is entirely German. Many East Penna. people live here, who need service in both languages. App. \$100.

- Overton, Pa.*—Rev. J. H. Schlappig, pastor. Reports progress. A Northern frontier mission of our Church. App. \$75; continued. English and German.
- Liverpool, Pa.*—Rev. W. Donat, pastor. Improving; so that the appropriation could be reduced since July 1st, from \$150 to \$80. English and German.
- Lykens, Pa.*—Rev. J. Kretzing, pastor. Since July a self-supporting charge by its connection with two other congregations. The late appropriation was \$350. English and German.
- South Bethlehem, Pa.*—Rev. N. Z. Snyder, pastor. Will be a self-supporting charge, in connection with other congregations from October 1st. Prosperous. Late App. \$200. English and German.

2. PITTSBURGH SYNOD.

- Kittanning, Pa.*—Rev. D. S. Dieffenbacher, pastor. Quite prosperous. Will soon be self-supporting. App. \$300 until June, 1875; since then \$225. English.
- Meadville, Pa.*—Rev. D. D. Leberman, pastor. Two congregations; one in town, and one in the country. Doing well. An old mission. App. \$150; now discontinued. English and German.
- Titusville, Pa.*—The late pastor, owing to well-known difficulties of the congregation, left with the close of last December. Vacant since. Should form a charge in connection with Corry and Union City. In its present condition it is next to impossible to run it as a mission. The late App. was \$300. German and English.
- Cumberland, Md.*—Rev. F. R. Schwedes, pastor. Doing well. A number of serious obstacles have been removed or relieved during the year. Church building improved and painted. A new point begun in connection with it at Keyser City. App. \$400; continued. German.
- Pittsburgh, Pa.*—*St. Paul's*, Rev. J. W. Ebbinghaus, pastor. Growing, though slowly. Labors under considerable debt. Building re-painted. Pastor hopeful in his work. App., old, \$300; new, \$200. German.
- St. James'*, Rev. C. Boerchers, pastor. Gaining every way in solid character. Located amidst a large German population. App., old, \$225; new, \$200. German.
- St. Luke's*, Rev. P. F. Schulke, pastor. New mission; hard work. Pastor moderately successful; labored earnestly. Now vacant. App. \$200. German.
- Trinity*, Rev. T. F. Stauffer, pastor. Has been from the first a flourishing mission. App., old, \$400; new, \$300; conditional. English.

Pittsburg, Pa.—*Zion's*, Rev. G. B. Russell, D.D., pastor. A thrifty young interest. Paid off some of its debt; down to \$1,000. Had some trouble, and suffered from it to some extent. Has stood up for order. App., old, \$400; new, \$300; conditional. English.

We use the word *conditional* in reference to the new appropriation to Trinity and Zion's, because the Superintendent of Missions is instructed to effect such arrangements with them as may be to their common interest, and mutually satisfactory.

Triadelphia, W. Va.—Until July vacant. Since then under the pastoral care of Rev. Louis Müller. A small interest, not likely to be soon self-supporting. App. \$150. German.

Scottdale, Pa.—Supplied part of the year by Rev. Prof. Lucien Cort. Since August under the pastoral care of Rev. W. C. B. Shulenberg. Doing well, expects to have other congregations united with it, so as to form a good charge before very long. App. \$300. English.

Helvetia, W. Va.—Rev. A. Kern, pastor. This is a pioneer congregation in the wilderness. Prospering. Another point has lately been added by the pastor. App. \$100; continued. German.

Buffalo, N. Y.—*Salem's*. Rev. C. Kuss, pastor. Placed by the German Synod of the East under the care of its own Board since January, 1875. App. \$300. German.

SYNOD OF THE POTOMAC.

Duncannon, Pa.—Under the pastoral care of Rev. H. Wissler until August. Vacant now. Has a good field for growth in the future. App., old, \$400; new, \$300. English and German.

Washington, D. C.—Rev. M. Treiber, pastor. The congregation has connected with the German Maryland Classis, and has ceased to be under our care since July 1st. App. \$300. German.

Baltimore, Md.—*Emanuel's*, Rev. J. C. Hauser, pastor. Placed by the German Synod of the East under the care of its own Board since January, 1875. App. \$300. German.

Winchester, Va.—Rev. C. G. Fisher, pastor. Making progress internally and externally. App., old, \$350; new, \$300. English.

San Francisco, Cal.—Rev. J. H. Krueger, pastor. No particular change during the year. Holds fairly its own. App., old, \$330; new, \$250. German.

Stockton, Cal.—Rev. J. Müllhaupt, pastor. A prosperous mission from the beginning. Since January, 1875, self-supporting. Late app. \$80. German.

Napa, Cal.—Rev. F. Fox, pastor. Doing well. Missionary encouraged, and doing some service beyond the bounds of his charge. App., old, \$440; new, \$330. English and German.

Portland, Oregon.—Rev. J. Gantenbein, pastor. Mission new. Fifty members gathered. No property yet. Missionary feels encouraged and hopeful. App. \$600. German.

NEW MISSIONS.

A number of applications for the establishment of new missions have come before us; the most of them from prominent places. In each case some preparatory work has been done.

Washington, D. C.—An English interest. The membership has been visited, and found anxious for an organization. The Board has instructed the Superintendent of Missions to bring this interest before our liberal-hearted people; and as soon as he has secured the promise of a sufficient sum to support a pastor for the year, to cause the mission to be organized. A good beginning could be made here in the nation's capitol.

Allentown, Pa.—*Salem's*. A good Chapel built and paid for. Sunday-school organized. No pastor yet. A very promising interest.

Easton, Pa.—*Grace*. New organization. Will build a chapel yet this season. A good subscription for it. No pastor yet. Promising every way. English and German.

Wilkesbarre, Pa.—A large inland city, with many of our people in it; yet no Reformed congregation. Have taken steps toward an organization, and expect to go forward. Can begin with a good nucleus. Left in hands of the Superintendent. App. \$400. English.

Lock Haven, Pa.—A congregation was organized here last winter. Rev. J. W. Pontius took charge about July. The place is important; an outpost between the Eastern and Pittsburgh Synods; and a good congregation there would tell directly upon the interests of both. The beginning so far looks well, and the young brother in charge feels encouraged. App. \$500. English.

Shenandoah City, Pa.—Lately taken under the care of the Board. Congregation doing quite well under the charge of Rev. E. D. Miller. The corner-stone for a new Church has been laid. The pastor serves also some country congregations. App. \$200. English and German.

EXPENSES.

It is interesting to study the expenditure required during the past two years, to do the work of missions in these three Synods, and the prospective cost for the next year on the basis of our present general plan. It must be distinctly borne in mind that during the year before the present our Board *received* simply the mission work as the several Synods and Classes had shaped it during preceding years. It took and carried forward what was given it ready to hand and on the list. It is true, it declined a few old missions, and carried a number of the rest only from four to six or nine months; and thus, of course, had its expenses *under* the figure of actual cost of all during the whole year. Yet the expense account of our Treasurer last October, 1874, stood :

Cash paid out.....	\$8,295.00
Orders unpaid.....	4,000.00
	<hr/>
Total cost of Missions to the Board.....	\$12,295.00
	<hr/>

During the second year, now closing, the Board had its own way to a large extent. It had itself relieved of some of the old missions, changed the appropriations of a few, and carried for part of the year the new missions, Salem's, Buffalo, N. Y., and that at Lock Haven, and during the whole year St. Luke's, Pittsburgh. Now the total expenses of the Board amount to \$11,000, which is \$1,300 less than the year before. The cost of carrying forward our mission work for the incoming year is estimated, as will be seen below, at \$9,500, including new missions, to the extent that they will affect us during the course of the year. This will be \$1,500 less than our expenses during the past year, and near \$3,000 less than when we got the missions.

For a statement of our income this year, and our actual indebtedness, we refer to the Treasurer's report.

We congratulate the Synods and the Church on the following points apparently secured in the way of positive, permanent progress :

1. The Board has come to have something like the proper control over all the missions under its care; and in the organization of new missions it is consulted, and in the general cause it is allowed consideration.

2. Missions can now be retired and old appropriations reduced to some effect; and this without injuring any one, while saving a large sum to the Treasury. Time and labor and system have brought this about.

3. We are rapidly coming to have a fair proportion of new missions mainly in large towns and cities, and calculated to inspire enlarged zeal and interest in the Church at large.

4. Nearly all the Classes in the three Synods are now actively co-

operating with the Board, and apportionments are cheerfully and liberally made for the cause. The meetings of the several Classes last Spring showed a marked improvement in this respect over those of the Spring before.

5. Taken as a whole our Synods, Classes, congregations, and Sunday-schools are in better, harmonious, felt co-operation in carrying forward this good work than they have ever been heretofore.

6. That while the Board had transferred to itself by the Synods and Classes, two years ago, missions costing full \$4,000 above the then current income, we will henceforth be in shape to pay by steps the debt accumulated in consequence.

As last Spring's apportionments by the several Classes have not yet been met *in proportion to the time elapsed* since, by the majority of Classes, the following statement will give a near estimate of the financial wants of the cause of Missions for the *coming classical* year.

Probable actual expenses for that year.....	\$9,500.00
Amt. needed to pay deficit past and present.....	5,500.00
Total.....	\$15,000.00

Of this amount we suggest the following sub-division:

Synod in the U. S.....	\$8,500
Pittsburgh Synod.....	3,200
Synod of the Potomac.	3,300
Total.....	\$15,000

In all we have had *forty-two* missions under our care. Owing to the pressure of the times the work had to be carried forward with unusual care and effort. Special thanks are due our Missionaries for their steady labors amid severe self-denial. The Lord will reward them. May He also direct the Synods to devise and do as may best answer the high interests of the Missionary cause as it confronts us as a Church of Jesus Christ.

Respectfully submitted.

F. K. LEVAN,
Superintendent of Missions.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

To the Board of Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States.

I beg leave very respectfully to submit my Second Annual Report, exhibiting the receipts and disbursements of the Board for the year ending Oct. 5th, 1875.

RECEIPTS.

SYNOD OF THE UNITED STATES.

Classis of Philadelphia.....	\$250 53	
(S. Schools, \$40 75)		
Classis of Goshenhoppen.....	1,054 46	
Classis of East Penna.....	712 93	
(S. Schools, \$62 16)		
Classis of Tohickon.....	551 06	
Classis of Lebanon.....	2,120 75	
(S. Schools, \$100 00)		
Classis of Lancaster.....	501 42	
(S. Schools, \$6 00)		
Classis of West Susq.....	420 45	
(S. Schools, \$40 00)		
Classis of East Susq.....	615 73	
(S. Schools, \$12 34)		
	(\$261 25)	
Total from Synod U. S. (including S. S.).....		\$6,227 33

SYNOD OF THE POTOMAC.

Classis of Zion.....	\$832 63	
(S. Schools, \$56 16)		
Classis of Maryland.....	529 74	
(S. Schools, \$152 51)		
Classis of Mercersburg.....	50 00	
(S. Schools, \$10 00)		
Classis of Virginia.....	100 00	
	(\$218 67)	
Total from Synod of Potomac (including S. S.).....		1,512 37

SYNOD OF PITTSBURGH.

Classis of Allegheny.....	\$375 00	
Classis of Clarion.....	679 12	
(S. Schools, \$12 65)		
Classis of St. Paul.....	163 46	
Classis of Somerset.....	301 43	
(S. Schools, \$5 50)		
From Treasurer of Synod.....	406 28	
	(\$18 15)	
Total from Synod of Pittsburgh (including S. S.).....		1,925 29
“ “ the three Synods.....		\$9,664 99
From Loans.....		5,511 07
“ Miscellaneous sources.....		166 67
Total from all sources.....		\$15,342 73

DISBURSEMENTS.

By Balance due Treasurer, as per last account, rendered Oct. 13,		
1874.....	\$131	73
" Orders of the Board paid during the year.....	10,706	10
" Amount paid Treasurer of Iowa Classis.....	267	50
" " " Loans to Bank.....	4,005	33
" Balance due the Board.....	232	07
	<hr/>	\$15,342 73

It will be observed that, although the total contributions from the different Synods are about \$1,500 in excess of last year, yet, in consequence of the large appropriations needed to support our devoted missionaries, heavy loans were necessitated, of which \$500 remain unpaid; and orders amounting to \$4,500 are in the hands of the Treasurer, for the payment of which no provision could be made. The large sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) is therefore needed, and should be provided at once by the Church, to liquidate the claims of her missionaries.

Respectfully submitted.

WM. H. SEIBERT, *Treasurer.*

HARRISBURG, Pa., Oct. 6, 1875.

I hereby certify that I have audited the account of Wm. H. Seibert by vouchers, and find the same correct, showing a balance in the Treasury of \$232.07.

W. H. H. SNYDER.

IV. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

The Committee on Missions, to whom the foregoing Reports had been referred, submitted their report, which was received, and taken up item by item, amended, and adopted, and is as follows:

Your Committee on Missions would respectfully report that four documents were placed into our hands, to wit:

1. The Report of the President of the Tri-Synodic Board of Home Missions.
2. The Report of the Superintendent of Home Missions.
3. The Report of the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Home Missions.
4. A letter from Rev. F. Fox, Missionary at Napa, California.

It is with devout gratitude to the Great Head of the Church, that we learn from the first three mentioned documents, that the arduous work of the Board of Home Missions has been carried forward with great energy and zeal, and with encouraging success. We also have in these reports the gratifying intelligence that the contributions from the different Synods this year are about \$1500.00 in excess of last year; and that this is an evidence that the great work of missions is receiving more of the attention of the pastors and their congregations, and also that there is being awakened in the Church a deeper interest in this blessed cause.

In view of the large and extending field, the earnest cries for help coming up from all directions, and the self-denying devotion of the missionaries themselves,—it behooves this Synod to give this cause greater attention—that her pastors and congregations may be incited to a greater activity, and a more earnest co-operation with the Board, and a more prayerful interest in her blessed God-appointed work.

That the work of the Board of Home Missions may be carried forward efficiently, there will be needed for the current year fifteen thousand dollars. Of this amount fifty-five hundred dollars are now due our faithful missionaries, and should be provided for at once.

In view of the above facts your Committee suggest the following action:

Resolved, That this Synod assume Thirty-three Hundred Dollars as her portion of the Fifteen Thousand Dollars.

Resolved, further, That this amount be apportioned to the different Classes on the basis of membership, due account being given to funds raised for Beneficiary Education, as follows:

Maryland Classis.....	\$1,300 00
Zion's Classis	1,100 00
Mercersburg Classis.....	550 00
Virginia Classis.....	250 00
North Carolina Classis.....	100 00

Making..... \$3,800 00

From the fourth document we learn that the mission at Napa, California, under the care of Rev. F. Fox, is in a prosperous condition.

Respectfully submitted.

S. S. MILLER, *Chairman*.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That this Synod appoint a Committee of three, consisting of Revs. J. O. Miller, M. H. Sangree, and Elder I. Laucks, to prepare a paper expressing the sense of high appreciation with which this Synod regards the labors in which the Brethren on the Pacific Coast are engaged, and thus convey to them the cordial greetings, sympathy, and love of this Synod in their work, and assure them also of our fervent prayers to God for them and their labor of love.

Terms of Office of Members of the Synod's Board of Missions.

The Synodic Board of Home Missions offered the following report, designating the terms of office of its members, which was received and adopted, viz.:

At a meeting of the Board of Home Missions of the Synod of the Potomac, the Secretary was instructed to report the following action

of the Board determining the terms of office of the several members of the Board. The time of each member expires as follows, viz.:

Elder Henry Wirt,	October 1st,	1875.
Rev. W. K. Zieber,	"	1876.
" E. R. Eschbach,	"	1876.
" W. R. H. Deatrich,	"	1877.
Elder G. S. Griffith,	"	1877.
" W. A. Wilt,	"	1878.
Rev. J. O. Miller,	"	1878.

This Synod has, therefore, to elect one member in the stead of Elder Henry Wirt, whose term has expired.

Respectfully submitted,

E. R. ESCHBACH, *Secretary of Board.*

Elder Henry Wirt was re-elected a member of the Synodie Board of Home Missions for the term of four years, or until October 1st, 1879.

ARTICLE XV.

FINANCE.

I. TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer of Synod submitted his Annual Report, which was received, and then referred to the Committee on Finance, for the purpose of being audited. The Report is as follows :

LOUIS MARKELL, *Treasurer, in account with the Synod of the Potomac,
Reformed Church.*

DR.

October 22,	1874.	To balance, cash on hand.....	\$464	25
June 4,	1875.	To cash from North Carolina Classis.....	30	00
September 6,	"	Mercersburg "	112	00
October 6,	"	Maryland "	100	00
" 21,	"	Virginia "	30	00
" 22,	"	Zion's Classis, in part.....	50	00
			\$786	25
Making.....			\$786	25

CONTRA, CR.

October 24, 1874.	By cash paid for Minute Book for Board of Education.....	\$2 10
November 5, "	By cash paid George Gelbach, Treasurer of the Church Extension Fund.....	232 00

January 25, 1875.	By cash paid Reformed Church Publication Board for printing Minutes.....	185 00
" " "	By cash paid Stated Clerk for freight and postage on Minutes, traveling expenses, &c.....	19 00
September 6, "	By cash paid Stated Clerk for freight and expenses on Minutes of General Synod.....	4 00
" " "	By cash paid Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, Salary a Stated Clerk.....	75 00
October 21, "	By cash paid Rev. J. A. Peters, expenses of Com- mittee on boundaries of Synods.....	6 00
" 22, "	By balance, cash on hand	263 15
Making.....		\$786 25
Due from Zion's Classis, assessment in part, \$62.00.		

II. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

The Committee on Finance submitted their report, as follows, which was received and adopted, viz.:

The Committee on Finance would respectfully offer the following report:

They have examined the Treasurer's Report, with its accompanying vouchers, and find it to be correct. A balance of \$263.15 remains in the hands of the Treasurer, and \$62.00 are still due the Synod from Zion's Classis, on assessment of last annual meeting.

In order to provide for the payment of \$166.00 due from this Synod to the General Synod for contingent purposes, the Committee deem it necessary to raise by assessment the sum of \$250.00, in addition to that remaining in the Treasury. This sum the Committee have apportioned among the several Classes, as follows:

Zion's Classis.....	\$75 00
Mercersburg Classis.....	75 00
Maryland "	70 00
Virginia "	20 00
North Carolina "	20 00

Making..... \$260 00

Respectfully submitted.

J. S. KIEFFER, *Chairman.*

The Treasurer was instructed to pay to the Treasurer of the General Synod \$166.00, being the sum assessed upon this Synod for the Contingent Fund of the General Synod.

The Treasurer, it will be seen by reference to his report, paid George Gelbach, Treasurer of the Church Extension Fund, the full amount assessed upon this Synod, toward liquidating the debt resting upon said Board.

The Committee of Conference, appointed at the Synod of Chambersburg, to confer with the Synod of the United States, with instructions to request that Synod to liquidate our share of indebtedness to the former Board of Education by our proper share of the interests derived from the old Beneficiary Fund, and also to bring to the notice of said Synod the great necessity of the two Synods coming to a clear and fixed understanding of the relation which the two Synods sustain to these funds, which were held by the Church in common, prior to the organization of the Synod of the Potomac, and which was continued last year, with instructions to attend to this matter, if possible, without further delay, failed to report, and was discharged.

The Stated Clerk, who had been instructed at the last annual meeting of Synod, to notify the Mercersburg and North Carolina Classes, which had not paid their full quotas of the assessments made by the Synod of the United States at Martinsburg, West Virginia, in 1872, for contingent purposes, that said Synod refuses to exonerate them from the payments of their full assessments, offered the following report, which was received and adopted :

The undersigned respectfully reports, That he attended to the instructions of the Synod thus given, in due time and form.

Respectfully submitted.

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk.*

From the Treasurer's Report it will be seen that the Classes all paid their assessments for Contingent Fund of Synod, except Zion's Classis, which still owes \$62.00.

A letter was received from the German Maryland Classis, asking to be exonerated from the payment of the assessment upon it for contingent purposes, made at the last annual meeting of the Synod. The letter was read, and, on motion, the German Maryland Classis was released from the payment of \$12.00, the sum assessed upon it last year for Contingent Fund of Synod.

ARTICLE XVI.

APPEALS AND REFERENCES.

Nothing occurred under this head.

ARTICLE XVII.

COMPLAINTS.

The Committee on Minutes of Synod, under items 7 and 8, reported the appointment of Revs. S. N. Callender and J. S. Kieffer as a committee to defend this Synod before the General Synod of Fort Wayne in the Rice Appeal and Birely Complaint cases.

The Committee offered the following report, which was received and adopted:

Having been appointed by the Synod of the Potomac at its sessions at Hanover, Pa., together with Rev. S. N. Callender, to defend before the General Synod at Fort Wayne, Ind., the action of the Potomac Synod in two cases of Complaint relating to the Evangelical Reformed Church of Frederick, Md., the undersigned would report that in the absence of Rev. S. N. Callender, he was present at said General Synod to discharge the duty assigned them; but that, the Complaints having been withdrawn by those who had charge of them, no defence of the Synod's action was necessary.

Respectfully submitted.

J. SPANGLER KIEFFER.

ARTICLE XVIII.

SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

The Sunday-school Board presented its Second Annual Report, which was received, amended and adopted as follows:

At the last meeting of the Synod, the subject of preparing "Lesson Papers" was entrusted to this Board; which, however, shortly after the adjournment of Synod, was taken up by the Synod of the United States, and arrangements were made, that at the commencement of the civil year, the Church was favored with "Papers" for the Sunday-school, constructed on the Gospel Lessons for the Church Year, and since then regularly issued every month. That was an era in the history of our Church in relation to our Sunday school work. These papers should commend themselves to all our Reformed Sunday schools from the fact that they are in full accord with the spirit of our Church, enabling the schools to bring before the minds and hearts of both teachers and scholars the great facts in the life of the blessed Redeemer. In the judgment of your Board these papers are well adapted for the more advanced scholars, but not for those younger, and there is a want here which should be met. It would be well for the Church to have prepared a paper on the same subject for each Lord's day, so as to preserve uniformity, which should be specially

designed for the smaller children, and then with these papers for the several Classes and some smaller Catechisms, such as Strassburger's, in connection with the authorized Catechisms of the Church, your Synod, and indeed the Church, would have a complete system for the instruction of the young.

Besides the foregoing the Board has nothing of interest to report. In view of these facts, your Board would suggest to Synod the adoption of the following resolutions, viz. :

Resolved, That the Lesson Papers published by the Reformed Church Publication Board be commended to the Pastors and Sunday-schools under the care of this Synod, and that they be introduced into our Sunday-schools so far as it may be practicable in the judgment of the different pastors.

Resolved, further, That Synod set apart an evening at the next annual meeting for the discussion of topics connected with the Sunday-school cause.

Respectfully submitted.

J. W. SANTEE,	} <i>Sunday-school Board.</i>
G. S. GRIFFITH,	
J. A. PETERS,	
F. M. MCKEEHAN,	

Rev. Wm. K. Zieber was elected a member of the Sunday-school Board for the term of five years ; and Rev. A. C. Whitmer for three years, the unexpired term of Rev. J. Crawford, who has removed beyond the limits of this Synod.

The Sunday-school meeting was held, according to programme, on Friday evening, and was one of very considerable interest.

A paper by Lewis H. Steiner, M. D., on the subject : "*What shall be the topics for our Sunday-school Lessons?*" was laid before Synod and read. The subject was discussed at considerable length, and the document was then referred to a special committee for consideration, composed of Revs. J. O. Miller, J. W. Santee, S. N. Callender, W. K. Zieber, and Elder L. Markell.

This Committee, at a subsequent session of the Synod, presented the following report, which was received and adopted, viz. :

To the Synod of the Potomac :

Your Committee to whom was submitted the paper of Dr. L. H. Steiner, read in your hearing, on the subject : "*What shall be the topics for our Sunday-school Lessons?*" report,

That they have carefully considered said paper, and find that it expresses clearly a want that is deeply felt throughout our entire Church, not only by the Sunday-school teachers, but by the ministry

themselves. To teach the Holy Scriptures, this inexhaustible treasury of divine knowledge successfully, after the manner of the fathers we must in our Sunday-schools, as well as pulpits, conform to the spirit of the lessons contained in the Church Year. And what is needed, therefore, in our Sunday-school work, is a manual which shall furnish a clear and intelligible series of topics on this general subject, which in the end should have the endorsement of the Synod as a book suitable and proper to be used in our schools.

We propose, therefore, the following action :

Resolved, 1. That the Sunday-school Board be, and hereby are, instructed either to prepare, or have prepared, a manual, giving a concise, practical and popular account of the general idea and scheme of the Church Year, with specific, detailed statements of the significance of the separate days and seasons, and the logical order of thought contained in them.

2. That the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States and the Pittsburgh Synod be respectfully requested to co-operate in this movement, embraced in the foregoing resolution.

3. That the Corresponding Secretary be directed to transmit a copy of this action to the officers of these respective Synods.

4. That this paper of Dr. Steiner be placed in the hands of the Sunday-school Board of this Synod for their use.

Respectfully submitted.

J. O. MILLER, *Chairman*.

ARTICLE XIX.

CHURCH GOVERNMENT.

The Committee appointed at the Synod of Organization to act with similar Committees from the District Synods of the United States and Pittsburgh, to determine the Synodical Boundaries, presented the following final report, which was received and adopted :

The Committee appointed by the Synod in the United States and the Synod of the Potomac to determine more definitely the boundaries of the Eastern District Synods (the Synod of Pittsburgh included, although it did not appoint a committee to co-operate with the other committees), held a joint meeting in the study of Rev. Dr. A. H. Kremer in Lancaster, Pa., May 13th, 1874, at which were present four members, viz., three of the Committee of the Synod in the United States, and one of the Committee of the Synod of the Potomac. At this meeting no definite action was taken.

On the 19th of August, 1875, another meeting was held in the Lecture Room of the First Reformed Church, Harrisburg, Pa., at which time only three members of the Committees were present, viz.,

the Chairman of the Committee of the Synod in the United States, and two of the Committee of the Synod of the Potomac.

The following report was agreed upon, and afterwards adopted by the two Committees, which we herewith lay before you for your consideration :

The Synod in the United States shall comprise all the territory embraced by the New England States, New Jersey and Delaware; all the territory of Pennsylvania east of the Susquehanna River, as far north as the mouth of the Juniata River, north of the Juniata River westward as far as the Huntingdon County line and east of the eastern boundaries of the Counties of Huntingdon, Clearfield, Cameron and McKean; all the territory of the State of New York east of the eastern boundaries of the Counties of Chemung, Schuyler, Seneca and Wayne to Lake Ontario.

The Synod of the Potomac shall comprise all the territory of Pennsylvania west of the Susquehanna River, and south of the Juniata River westward as far as the Huntingdon County line, with the Counties of Huntingdon, Blair and Bedford on the west; all the territory of Maryland east of the eastern boundary of Allegheny County; all the territory embraced by the States of Virginia, West Virginia east of the Allegheny Mountains, the District of Columbia, and North Carolina, with the States of South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, California and Oregon as missionary ground.

We have complied with the instructions of Synod as given at the last annual meeting, by transmitting a copy of this report to the Synod of Pittsburgh, which convened at Kittanning, Pa., on the 14th instant.

The Committee of the Synod of the Potomac incurred \$6.00 expenses.

Respectfully submitted.

C. H. LEINBACH, *of the Synod in U. S., Chairman.*

J. A. PETERS, } *Committee of Synod of Potomac.*

J. P. HASSLER, }

On motion, the Treasurer of Synod was instructed to pay the bill of expenses incurred by the Committee of Synod.

The Committee appointed at the first annual meeting of Synod to confer on the matter of union between the Reformed Church in the United States and the Reformed Church in America, in conjunction with similar committees from the other District Synods, presented the following final report, which was received and adopted :

The Committee appointed by this Synod at Chambersburg, Pa., to confer, in connection with similar committees appointed by the other Synods of our Church in this country, with a Committee of the Reformed Church in America, on the subject of a closer union between that Church and ours, would respectfully report,

That they met agreeably to appointment with the different Committees in Philadelphia, Pa., on Tuesday, November 17th, 1874, in the Race Street Church. The conference lasted for two days, but only reached the result, that we were not prepared for any closer union at this time. The full report of said joint conference was made to the General Synod at Fort Wayne, Indiana, in May last, and is found on pages 25-29 of its published Minutes.

Respectfully submitted.

J. O. MILLER, *Chairman.*

The Committee appointed at the first annual meeting of Synod to aid in drafting a new Constitution presented the following final report, which was received and adopted, viz. :

Your Committee on Constitution, in conjunction with similar Committees from the other District Synods, reported to the General Synod their views, and the General Synod, upon the adoption of this report, appointed a Committee to draft a Constitution, taking into view the suggestions of the various Committees of the District Synods. Your Committee, therefore, request to be discharged.

Respectfully submitted.

E. E. HIGBEE, *Chairman.*

The Committee on Minutes of Classes reported, that the several Classes took favorable action on the subject of harmonizing the charters of congregations with the Constitution of the Reformed Church in the United States.

The Statistical Tables appended to the Minutes of this meeting will show how far the request of the last, as well as of the first, annual meeting of Synod, has been heeded by the several Classes, to have full and complete statistical reports.

The German Synod in the East having been organized in the early part of the present year, the German Maryland Classis forms a constituent part of said Synod, and consequently is no longer an integral part of this Synod, agreeably to the action of Synod last year, dismissing said Classis.

The recommendation to the District Synod, as reported in item 33 of Committee on Minutes of General Synod, concerning the expenses of delegates to the Synods of the Church, was, on motion, referred to the General Synod's Committee on new Constitution.

ARTICLE XX.

PUBLICATION.

The following report was received from the Stated Clerk in regard to the publication of the Minutes of the Second Annual Meeting of Synod, and was adopted.

The undersigned, as Stated Clerk of Synod, would respectfully report :

That he had twelve hundred and fifty copies of the Acts and Proceedings of the Second Annual Meeting of the Synod published, agreeably to the instructions of Synod, and distributed them according to the directions of the Synod. About four hundred copies were sent to ministers of the other Synods of the Church, at an expense of about nine dollars for postage and wrappers.

The Minutes were published by the Reformed Church Publication Board in Philadelphia, Pa., as ordered, and at a cost of \$185.00, which has been paid by the Treasurer of Synod.

Respectfully submitted.

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk.*

The following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be instructed to have twelve hundred and fifty copies of the Minutes of the present sessions, duly authenticated, published, and distributed among those entitled to receive them.

ARTICLE XXI.

MISCELLANEOUS.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SYNOD.

The Board of Trustees of Synod presented their annual report to Synod, which was received and adopted, and is as follows :

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac :

The Board of Trustees of the Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States beg leave to report :

That no special business has commanded their attention during the past year. Agreeably to the provisions of the Charter, the term of service of Lewis H. Steiner, M. D., will expire on the first of January, 1876, whose place will have to be provided for at this meeting of Synod.

Respectfully submitted.

S. N. CALLENDER,
E. R. ESCHBACH,
LOUIS MARKELL.

Rev. J. O. Miller was elected a member of the Board of Trustees of Synod, in the place of Dr. L. H. Steiner, to serve from January 1st, 1876, to January 1st, 1881.

Society for the Relief of Ministers and Widows of Ministers.

The Committee on Minutes of Classes reported, in reference to the Society for the Relief of Ministers and Widows of Ministers, that the several Classes took favorable action with respect to this Society, agreeably to the recommendations of Synod last year, on this subject.

An assessment of twenty-five cents was laid upon the members of Synod to meet incidental expenses. The Revs. S. S. Miller and A. G. Dole were appointed to collect said assessment.

This Committee subsequently reported, as follows, which was received and adopted, viz.:

Your Committee appointed to collect an assessment of twenty-five cents from each member to compensate the sexton of the church, and pay for printing the tickets, respectfully report :

That the Committee have called upon every member of Synod, and have received the aggregate amount of twenty-two dollars, which has been handed to the Pastor.

Respectfully submitted.

S. S. MILLER, *Chairman.*

The Committee on Overtures, under item 5, reported a communication from the Board of Managers of Bethany Orphans' Home at Womelsdorf, Pa., in which they lay before the Synod a statement of the receipts and disbursements of that institution, and appeal to Synod for material aid and sympathy. The communication was read, and the subject then referred to a special Committee, consisting of Revs. W. C. Schæffer, D. N. Dittmar, and Elder I. Laucks, to prepare a suitable minute in regard to the matter.

This Committee, at a subsequent session of Synod, presented their report, which was received, amended, and adopted, as follows, viz.:

Your Committee appointed to prepare a minute on the Report of the Board of Managers of Bethany Orphans' Home at Womelsdorf, Pa., would respectfully submit the following preamble and resolution for adoption:

WHEREAS, An earnest appeal has been made to this Synod by the Board of Managers of Bethany Orphans' Home at Womelsdorf in behalf of said Home, in order to give them the needed funds to provide a home for the fatherless; therefore,

Resolved, That this Synod anew commends said Home to the confidence of our people, and that all the congregations within the bounds of this Synod be earnestly requested to take up a collection,

or send other aid, during the year, for the benefit of said Home, and that the interests of the Home be specially commended to the attention of our Sunday-schools.

Respectfully submitted.

W. C. SCHAEFFER, *Chairman.*

The Committee on Overtures, under item 8, reported a transcript of certain action taken by the Board of Publication of the Reformed Church in the United States, at its regular meeting held on the 13th of October, 1875, accompanied with a brief statement of the financial condition of the Board.

This paper was read, and then referred to a special committee, consisting of Revs. E. E. Higbee, D. Gans, and Elder J. P. Reed.

This Committee reported on the morning of the third day of the sessions, which was received, considered item by item, and adopted as follows, viz.:

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

The document referred to your Committee, from the Standing Committee on Overtures, has been carefully considered, and the general object aimed to be reached through the request of the Board of Publication of the Synod of the United States, viz.: to unite the three District Synods upon one paper,—to enlarge the present Board of Publication, and have the members thereof elected by the three District Synods respectively,—and to secure an editor in chief to be elected by the three Synods in conjunction, and also three editorial aids selected one from each Synod,—Your Committee most heartily approve; and to facilitate the speedy accomplishment of all this, respectfully suggest the following resolutions to be adopted by this Synod:

Resolved, 1st, That this Synod appoint at once a Committee of seven, consisting of four ministers and three elders, which Committee shall have full power to represent the Potomac Synod in balloting for an Editor in chief, whenever by the final action of the Synod of the United States a convention shall be called for such end.

Resolved, 2d, That this Synod elect by ballot, at this present session an editorial assistant, who shall enter upon his duties, as soon as the arrangements, now proposed, are consummated.

Resolved, 3d, That this Synod elect by ballot at this present session two members of the proposed enlarged Board of Publication, who shall enter upon their office as soon as the way is opened by the change of the Charter of the Board of Publication, as now constituted.

Resolved 4th, That the Synod of the United States be and hereby is respectfully overtured upon notification of the action of this Synod, to inform the Chairman of the Committee of Seven from this Synod

of its action in the premises, and the time and place of the proposed convention of the three Synods for the election of an Editor in chief.

Resolved, 5th, That all this action is conditional upon the acquiescence of the two other Synods in the general plan, and without this is null and void.

Respectfully submitted.

E. E. HIGBEE, *Chairman*.

A special Committee was appointed, consisting of Revs. E. R. Eschbach, J. O. Miller, and Elder A. B. Wingerd, to nominate a double number of names for the Committee of Seven to elect the Editor in Chief, six names for the Editorial Assistant, and a double set of names for members of the Board of Publication.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That a majority vote of the whole be required to elect the Committee of Seven to choose the Editor in Chief, to elect the Editorial Assistant, and members of the Board of Publication.

The special Committee on special nominations presented their report, on the morning of the fourth day of the sessions, which was received, amended, and adopted.

On the morning of the third day of the sessions, the Standing Committee on Nominations made their report, which was received and adopted.

The Stated Clerk was instructed to have two hundred tickets of these nominations printed for the use of Synod, and the election was made the order of the day for Monday morning's session.

At the appointed time the election was held. Revs. Wm. F. Colliflower, Wm. Goodrich, and Elders Wm. H. Bange and Wm. J. Hensell were appointed tellers, who received the ballots, counted the votes, and furnished the President with the result. This result, so far as the several Boards are concerned, will be found elsewhere, in connection with the action of the Synod on the Reports of those Boards.

The result in regard to Editorial Assistant, Committee of Seven to choose Editor in Chief, and members of the Board of Publication, is as follows, to wit:

Editorial Assistant.

Rev. E. E. HIGBEE, D. D.

Committee of Seven to choose Editor in Chief.

Rev. E. E. Higbee, D. D.,	Elder Henry Wirt,
" J. O. Miller, D. D.,	" Adam B. Wingerd,
" J. W. Santee, D. D.,	" John P. Reed.
" S. N. Callender, D. D.	

Members of Publication Board.

Elder Adam B. Wingerd.

“ Goldsboro S. Griffith.

The following preamble and resolutions for the Relief of the Publication Board of the Reformed Church were offered on the last day of the sessions. They were carefully discussed, and then adopted:

WHEREAS, In initiating the new order of combining the three Synods in the publication interests of the Church, it is necessary in order to give to it proper efficiency and success, to secure some ready money as capital with which to start; and, WHEREAS, This Synod, at its sessions at Hanover, even when not officially related to the Board of Publication, as now contemplated, resolved to use all proper exertion to aid in this very important work, therefore be it—

Resolved, That the Board of Trustees of this Synod be, and hereby are, authorized to effect a loan of two thousand dollars to be delivered to the new Board as soon as constituted.

Resolved, further, That this Synod put Rev. M. H. Sangree as agent into the field of this Synod, upon terms which the Board of Trustees, in their judgment, may approve, who shall collect funds and pay over to the Board of Trustees of this Synod the principal and interest of the loan, which said Board may make.

Rev. J. H. Krueger of San Francisco, Cal., Rev. T. L. Poulson of Baltimore, Md., Rev. F. Fox of Napa, Cal., Rev. J. Muellhaupt of Stockton, Cal., and Rev. D. Y. Heisler of Mont Alto, Pa., addressed letters to Synod, requesting to be excused for their non-attendance upon the present sessions of Synod. These were read, and they were severally excused.

A Report from the Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church in the United States was received, as item 4 of the Report of the Committee on Overtures, and read, and the Report accepted as an explanation.

A Report from the Secretary of the Board of Visitors of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States was received and read, as item 7 in the Report of the Committee on Overtures, and the item adopted.

No action was deemed necessary on item 6 of Report of Committee on Overtures, which was a complete form on which to report the statistics of pastoral charges to the Classis, and which had been transmitted to the Stated Clerk of Synod by the Stated Clerk of the General Synod.

The Committee on Overtures, under item 10, reported a request in behalf of the friends of the Sabbath in Philadelphia, Pa., asking this Synod to pass some resolutions against the opening of the Centennial

grounds and buildings on the Sabbath, during the coming National Celebration.

The communication was read, and the matter was thereupon referred to a special committee, consisting of Revs. W. K. Zieber, S. B. Schaffer, and Elder W. H. Bange, to prepare a suitable response.

This Committee subsequently presented the following report, which was received and adopted, to wit:

The document placed in our hands is a communication from a committee appointed at a meeting of ministers and laymen, held in Philadelphia, Pa., requesting this Synod to take action bearing upon opening on the Lord's day the Centennial grounds and buildings during the approaching National Exposition.

We are not aware of any official action contemplating the opening of said grounds and buildings on the Lord's Day. Nevertheless, we deem it proper for this Synod to unite in all earnest efforts to prevent the desecration of the Christian Sabbath. Therefore, we offer for adoption the following resolutions:

Resolved, That in the judgment of this Synod the opening of the Centennial grounds and buildings on the Lord's Day for any secular purpose would be a sin against God and an offence to the Christian people of this land.

Resolved further, That the Corresponding Secretary be instructed to transmit a copy of this action to the above-mentioned committee.

Respectfully submitted.

W. K. ZIEBER, *Chairman*.

The Committee appointed at last annual meeting, who, in conjunction with a similar Committee from the Synod in the United States, was empowered to prepare and publish an edition of "Hymns for the Reformed Church" with music, submitted the following report, which was received and adopted, and the Committee was continued, viz.:

Your Committee on Music for Hymn Book met in conjunction with the Committee of the mother Synod, and both Committees are now busily engaged in the work, and hope to be able to submit a report in full by the next meeting of the Synod.

Respectfully submitted.

E. E. HIGBEE, *Chairman*.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That this Synod accept the invitation of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States to be present at the Semi-Centennial Celebration to be held in Lancaster, Pa., on November 5th, A. D. 1875, and that we advise as many of our members as possible to be present at said celebration in the name of this Synod, and participate in those services which commemorate the Founding of

that School of the Prophets, in which we have a common inheritance, and which still commands our confidence.

The following preamble and resolution were adopted :

WHEREAS, There are great differences in the various District Synods in point of number of ministers ; and WHEREAS, A uniform method of representation from the Classes composing the different Synods, makes it impossible almost for some District Synods to meet in any other form than in convention, therefore,

Resolved, This Synod do hereby respectfully request the next General Synod to take immediate action so to change the present law of representation, that each District Synod may have power to fix its method of representation within itself, while a uniform method of representation, so far as the General Synod is concerned, be maintained.

ARTICLE XXII.

RESUMPTION AND CLOSE.

The following resolutions were adopted, to wit :

Resolved, That this Synod hereby expresses its hearty appreciation of the kindness of the Pastor and Congregation of Centenary Reformed Church of the City of Winchester, during its present sessions, and also its gratitude to the other families of Winchester, whose generous hospitality has rendered our stay so pleasant and comfortable among them.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Synod are hereby returned to the pastor and members of Market Street Methodist Episcopal Church for the use of their church building, in which to hold the religious services of the Synod.

Resolved, That the pastors of the before-mentioned congregations be requested to read the foregoing resolutions from their respective pulpits.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Synod be expressed to the Baltimore and Ohio, Cumberland Valley, Pennsylvania (Frederick Division), Western Maryland, and Hanover Branch Railroad Companies, for passing the members of Synod over their respective roads at reduced rates of fare.

Resolved, That the Corresponding Secretary be instructed to communicate this action to the officers of the different Railroad Companies just mentioned.

The Synodical Roll was then called, and none were found absent without permission.

The Minutes were read and adopted, and ordered to be engrossed.

ARTICLE XXIII.

ADJOURNMENT.

The following resolutions were adopted :

Resolved, That the next annual meeting of Synod be *in Convention*—to be composed of all the ministers within the bounds of Synod, and one elder from each pastoral charge.

Resolved, That we adjourn to meet again in annual sessions in Trinity Reformed Church of York, York County, Pa., on Wednesday, the 18th of October, A. D. 1876, at 7½ o'clock, P. M.

Adjourned with the repetition of the Apostles' Creed, prayer, the doxology, and the Apostolic Benediction by the President.

P. S. DAVIS, *President*.

Attest, WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk*.

Official Copy from the Original Minutes.

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk*.

CLASSIS OF ZION.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconf'd.	Baptisms.	Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Excom.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	S. Schools.	B. S. Sch's.	Benev.	Stud. Min.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.	County, Pa.
Daniel Ziegler, D. D.,	1 York (German),	450	150	51	29	8	280		4	15	1	100	\$60 00		York, York	do
Jacob Seehler,	4 Manheim,	450	175	23	24	415				8	9		198 25		Hanover, York	do
F. W. Vandersloot,	3 Mt. Pleasant,	270	150			100									York, York	do
Daniel Riegel,	2 Dillsburg,	250	214	14		184				10	2		20 00		Dillsburg, York	do
Jacob Ziegler,	Disabled,														York, York	do
Jacob O. Miller, D. D.,	1 Trinity Church, York,	335	315	29	24	4	291		5	9	3	425	311 80		York, York	do
Daniel Gring,	5 Shrewsbury,	490	275	70	38	472				20	8	300	91 00		Shrewsbury, York	do
William K. Zieber, D. D.,	1 Hanover,	331	275	31	26	13	275		5	6	1	225	355 00		Hanover, York	do
John Ault,	4 Christ Church,	870	475	87	69	12	780	1	8	20	4	385	242 00		Littlestown, Adams	do
W. R. H. Deatrich,	2 Mechanicsburg,	297	198	21	14	2	286			13	2	148	161 00		Mechanicsburg, Cumberl'd	do
Moses Kieffer, D. D.,	2 Gettysburg,	300	150	25	30	275			6	8	1	120	65 00		Gettysburg, Adams	do
Jacob D. Zehring,	5 Emanuel's,	817	385	81	57	8	741		7	34	10	275	259 65	1	Codorus, York	do
Rinehart R. Smith,	5 Trinity,	281	215	53	9	2	180		3	21	6	146	13 00		York, York	do
A. J. Heller,	3 Conowago,	475	300	50	49	10	430		1	11	3	200	217 00	2	Arendtsville, Adams	do
Oliver L. Ashenfelter,	1 Carlisle,	235	102	37	25	9	180		5	8	1	186	65 00		Carlisle, Cumberland	do
Aaron Wanner,	Without charge,	625	570	60	30	14	580		6	8	6	395	260 35		York, York	do
Aaron Shangler,	5 Abbottstown,	375	300	25	23	2	300		2	14	6	251	175 35		York, York	do
F. S. Linderman,	4 Zion's,	331	170	14	5	310			12	3	3	335	120 00		Blain, Perry	do
Vacant,	3 New Bloomfield,	129	81	3	5	119				4	3	85	24 07		Duncannon, Perry	do
Israel S. Weisz,	3 Duncannon,	715	525	53	22	7	663		8	35	8	300	1325 00		York, York	do
Reuben Rauhauser,	4 Paradise,	200	250	34	13	2	165			15	4	300	111 42		York, York	do
W. H. Herbert,	4 Kreutz Creek,	290	160	17	51	2	230		2	8	4	190	82 37		Landisburg, Perry	do
Sup. by Ashenfelter and Deatrich,	4 Landisburg,															
George W. Glessner.	2 Sulphur Springs,	201	110	9	16	9	168	1		5	2	55	31 00		Newburg, Cumberland	do
Sup. by Rev. A. Wanner.	1 Newburg,	80	125	14	9	2	80			3	1	100	16 36			
	1 Heidelberg, Ch.,	118	165	5		65				1	1	166	38 00			
	1 Mt. Zion Cong.,	70	68	4		40										
	4 York Springs,	235	150	6		9	158			5						
	1 St. Andrew's Cong.,	12														
Total, 24.		9232	6053	816	568	115	7767	2	74	284	90	4747	\$4242 62	3		

Licentiates. { James I. Good, York, York County, Pa.
{ George C. Hall, Landisburg, Perry County, Pa.

CLASSIS OF VIRGINIA.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconbr'd.	Baptisms.	Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Excom.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	Z. Schools.	S. S. Schls's.	Benev. Contribu's.	Candidates for Min'ry.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
John C. Hensell,	3 Rockingham,	209	120	5	7	7	170				2	3	150	\$60 00	Mt. Crawford, Rockg'm Co., Va.
Geo. H. Martin,	4 Woodstock,	400	360	27	16	27	320		1	1	7	1	40	80 00	Woodstock, Shenandoah Co
II. St. J. Rinker,	1 Lovettsville,	97	65	2	6	4	69			1	1	1	41	00	Lovettsville, Loudon do
Sam'l N. Callender, D. D.,	2 Mt. Crawford,	190		2	1	2	174			4	1	1	76	40	Harrisonburg, Rockingham do
Vacant,	1 Shepherdstown,	121	55	16	3	105			3	3	1	1	46	00	Shepherdstown, Jefferson W. Va.
C. G. Fisher,	2 Winchester,	98	72	18	2	12	70		2	1	5	1	20	00	Winchester, Frederick Va.
Henry Tallhelm,	3 Edenburg,	195	233	16	3	2	183						25	00	Edenburg, Shenandoah do
A. J. Bowers,	4 Mill Creek,	175		3			125				2	1	13	44	Moore's Store, do
Vacant,	1 Martinsburg,	215		8			125			6	1	100	32	86	
Wm. C. B. Shulenberger,	Without charge,														
Vacant,*	2 Middlebrook,	147					140								
Total, S.		1847	905	97	38	20	1481		7	30	10	445	\$394 70	2	

* Last year's report.

CLASSES OF NORTH CAROLINA.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconfr'd.	Baptisms.	Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Excom.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	S. Schools.	S. S. Sch'rs.	Deney. Contribu's.	Lowey Contribu'.	Stud. for Holy Min.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
George W. Welker,	3 Guilford,	290	217	17	17	257					2	1	\$32 00	\$8 00		Greensboro, N. C.
Jeremiah Ingold,	Without charge,															Hickory Tavern,
Thomas Long,	4 Upper Davidson,	180		15	4	150					1		26 00			Salem, do
Jesse W. Cecil,	2 West Rowan,	261		16	6	261			3		1	2	25 90			Thomasville, do
John Ingle,	Without charge,															Shaw's Mills, do
John C. Denny,	do															Gold Hill, do
Jacob C. Clapp,	6 Catawba,	312	144	15	9	304				11	3	120	172 00		1	Newton, do
Peter M. Trexler,	3 East Rowan,	159	57	5	3	159			4		1					Salisbury, do
M. L. Hedrick,	4 Lower Davidson,	170	79	14	5	168					4				1	Lexington, do
J. A. Foil,	Co-pas with J. C. Clapp,															Newton, do
J. H. Shuford,	4 Grace,	183	79	8	9	183			3		4	2				Hickory Tavern, do
Vacant,*	2 East Rowan,	250	179	23	2	240			2		3					Gold Hill, do
Total, 11.		1805	755	115	55	241722			12	26	9	120	\$255 90	\$8 00	2	

* Report of last year.

CLASSES OF SAN FRANCISCO.

MINISTERS.	Cong.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconf'd.	Baptisms.	Confirmed.	Certificates.	Communi- cants.	Excom.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	S. Schools.	S. S. Sch'rs.	Benev. Contribu's.	Stud. for Holy Min.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
Frederick Fox,*	1	Napa Mission,	22	40	10	3	—	22	—	10	3	1	45	—	—	Napa, Napa County, California,
Julius H. Krueger,	1	San Francisco do	31	32	17	2	4	20	—	1	1	1	75	—	—	San Francisco, do
J. Muellhaupt,*	1	Stockton Charge,	52	72	18	4	—	48	—	—	2	1	60	—	—	Stockton, do
John Gantonbein,	1	Portland Mission	50	30	—	—	—	45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Portland, Oregon.
	4		155	174	45	9	4	135	—	11	6	3	180	—	—	

* Report of last year.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY. Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States.

CLASSES.	Ministers.	Congreg's.	Members.	Unconf'd Members.	Baptisms.	Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi-cants.	Excom.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	Sunday Schools.	S. Scholars.	Students for Holy Ministry.	Benav. Contrib's.
Zion,	24	76	9,232	6,053	816	568	115	7,767	2	74	284	90	4,747	3	\$4,242 62
Maryland,	23	48	5,889	4,244	461	332	100	5,191	1	66	148	41	3,613	4	1,986 20
Mercersburg,	33	68	6,289	4,268	387	226	89	5,475		75	130	55	3,749	26	5,953 74
Virginia,	8	23	1,847	905	97	38	20	1,481		7	30	10	445	2	394 70
North Carolina,	11	28	1,805	755	90	53	24	1,772		12	26	9	120	2	255 90
San Francisco,	4	4	155	174	45	9	14	135		11	6	3	180		
Total, 6 Classes.	103	247	25,217	16,397	1,896	1,226	352	21,821	3	243	624	208	12,854	37	\$12,833 16
Synod of the U. States, 8 Classes,	183	419	63,655	35,181	5,407	3,874	946	48,982	27	575	2072	484	29,867	50	36,774 10
Synod of Ohio, 13 Classes,	148	341	23,345	11,976	2,095	1,514	843	18,891	240	294	572	246	17,289	16	10,419 27
Synod of the North West, 8 Classes,	108	176	14,011	11,111	1,594	1,113	686	11,577	115	324	426	140	5,614	5	8,907 94
Synod of Pittsburg, 5 Classes,	55	124	9,510	7,638	1,050	683	348	8,302	5	179	301	94	5,640	13	13,462 40
German Synod of the East, 4 Classes,	29	31	6,615	4,223	1,771	569	200	6,088	6	150	503	32	4,355		4,491 83
Grand Total, 6 Synods; 44 Classes,	626	1,338	142,353	86,526	13,873	8,979	3,375	115,661	396	1,765	4,498	1,204	75,619	121	\$86,888 70

NOTE.—The reduction in the aggregates of the Synods of the Potomac, the United States and Pittsburg, as compared with those of 1874, is explained by the dismission of the four Classes to organize a German Synod of the East, January 12, 1875.

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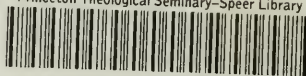




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